

Samuel Moore House and Store  
222 Point Street  
Saltsburg  
Indiana County  
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-5421

HABS  
PA,  
32-SALT,  
8-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, DC 20013-7127

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

SAMUEL S. MOORE HOUSE AND STORE

HABS No. PA-5421

Location: 222 Point St., Saltsburg, Conemaugh Township, Indiana County, Pennsylvania.

Present Owner: Ronald H. and Margery Mancabelli.

Present Use: Single-family residence.

Significance: The Samuel S. Moore House is notable as a structure erected to serve upstairs as a residence, accessed by a separate doorway, and downstairs as a store with traditional display windows and recessed entry--here naively combined in a vernacular, gable-front frame block that represents the forthcoming separation of living and work places.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: ca. 1871.
2. Original and subsequent owners: The following is an incomplete chain of title to the land on which the structure stands, historically the east half of lot No. 3. Reference is to the Recorder of Deeds Office of the County of Indiana, Pennsylvania.

1849 Deed September 27, 1849, Volume 16, Page 256.

Charles Findlay, et al.

TO

Francis Laird Jr. (no buildings, all of lot No. 3)

1871 Deed March 14, 1871, Volume A-37, Page 52.

Francis and Ellen Laird

TO

Samuel S. Moore (buildings, half lot No. 3)

1877 Deed April 16, 1877, Volume A-40, Page 460.

Samuel S. and Margaret Moore

TO  
Emma Thomas

1883 Deed April 10, 1883, Volume A-46, Page 72.  
Emma Thomas  
TO  
Margaret Moore

1884 Deed August 21, 1884, Volume A-47, Page 575.  
Margaret Moore  
TO  
Fannie and Julia Gamble

1893 Deed March 20, 1893, Volume A-57, Page 588.  
Fannie Gamble  
TO  
Julia Gamble

3. Original plans and construction: No original plans or drawings have been located, but the two-story, frame, gable-front building with first-floor storefront remains largely unchanged.
  4. Alterations and additions: Two successive, telescoping frame additions have been appended to the rear/south elevation; each is a rectangular mass. The first is a two-story, gable-roofed space, slightly less wide than the original block, sided with narrower clapboard than the original. The second addition is one-story, gable-roofed, and the same width.
- B. Historical Context: The building at 222 Point St. was constructed by Samuel S. Moore, a "dealer in confectioneries, fruits and nuts, cooking and parlor stoves," and a "manufacturer of tin and sheet iron ware" (Beers). Tax records of the 1870s through the early '80s identify him variously as a tinner, grocer and postmaster. His income during these years ranged from \$100 to \$150. Moore and his family lived on the second floor, and he operated the business on the first, which included serving as the Saltsburg post office for some years. By 1909 the building was completely vacant, but by 1927 both spaces were were utilized as offices (Sanborns).

For additional context, twenty-one reports on other buildings in Saltsburg may be consulted, as well as overview histories of the town of Saltsburg (HABS No. PA-5438) and of canal town development in Pennsylvania (HABS No. PA-5666). See also, Sara Amy Leach, ed., Two Historic Pennsylvania Canal

Towns: Alexandria and Saltsburg (Washington, DC: Historical American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record, National Park Service, March 1989).

## PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

### A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This first-floor storefront is found in an uncharacteristically non-commercial building form, a frame gable-front that is largely residential in appearance; sparse ornamental highlights are found in dentil coursing and raked eaves, as well as Victorian brackets and pilastered gingerbread.
2. Condition of fabric: Very good.

### B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: About 35' x 80' (Sanborns).
2. Foundation: Stone and brick; partially banked.
3. Walls: The front/north face of the building is clad with wide, horizontal weatherboards. The side facades are the same, though the boards are narrower and may be tongue-in-groove. The same siding is used on the southernmost addition. The middle addition features the same narrow siding.
4. Structural system: Frame.
5. Porches: A full hipped-roof porch extends over the commercial and residential entrances on the north facade; at the former end supported by the storefront itself, at the other by a single, squared corner column. The rear/south facade also features a frame porch.
6. Chimneys: There are two interior brick chimneys; one west of the ridge of the gable end of the first addition; the other at the south wall of the second addition.
7. Openings:
  - a. Doorways and doors: The main facade features two independent

entrances, with the storefront comprising about two-thirds of the facade width. This includes a single, glazed door topped by a two-light transom, and flanked by display windows. The frame supports rest on a wood base and floor deck.

The single doorway to the residential area on the second floor is recessed in the westernmost bay and contains a paneled, modern door.

A third doorway is located at the north end of the west facade. Another is in the second frame addition; both are plain and single.

- b. Windows: The off-center storefront features full-height, one-over-one-light canted display windows in a frame structure with paneled wood base.

The second story of the north elevation features three bays of one-over-one-light, double-hung-sash windows; there is evidence the architrave trim has been removed. The gable features a single, segmental-arch opening surrounded by heavy, hooded trim.

The east and west facades feature irregular fenestration: two-over-two-light double-hung sash with modestly decorative wood surrounds. There are two openings on the east wall; on the west wall, four regularly spaced windows on the second floor and four irregular openings on the first floor. The two windows in the south facade, original building and additions, contain six lights each.

8. Roof:

- a. Shape: Gable front with asphalt shingles.
- b. Cornice, eaves: Pronounced eaves with a raked cornice are located on the main facade, with exaggerated-dentil coursing, brackets and pilastered gingerbread brackets that extend up and out of the corner framing.

- C. Site: Narrow lot in a densely built-up block, facing north to Point Street; surrounded on the north, east, and west by other residences.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. Old Views and maps:

The collection of the Saltsburg Branch, Historical and Genealogical Society of Indiana County, Stone House Museum, contains numerous historical images.

Beers, F.W. Atlas of Indiana County. New York: F.W. Beers and Co., 1871.

Johnson, George B., and Palmer, Ann. Saltsburg--The Way It Was--An Appreciation. Indiana, Pa.: A.G. Halldin Publishing Co., 1986.

Peelor, David, and Barker, W. "Map of Indiana County, Pennsylvania." North Hector, New York: 1856.

"Saltsburg, Pa." New York: Sanborn Map and Publishing Co. Ltd., February 1886; New York: Sanborn-Perris Map Co. Ltd., October 1891, January 1897, July 1903; New York: Sanborn Map Company, April 1909, February 1927.

B. Primary and unpublished sources:

Indiana County, Pennsylvania, deed books and tax records.

C. Secondary and published sources:

Arms, C.T., and White, E. 1745-1880, History of Indiana County, Pennsylvania. Newark, Ohio: J. A. Caldwell, 1880.

Berringer, Gloria, ed. Canal Days Sesquicentennial: 1838-1988. No publisher, 1988.

Biographical and Historical Cyclopedia of Indiana and Armstrong Counties. Philadelphia: John M. Gresham and Co., 1891; reprinted 1982.

Johnson, George. Saltsburg and the Pennsylvania Canal. Historic Saltsburg, 1984.

McCullough, Robert, and Leuba, Walter. The Pennsylvania Main Line Canal. York, Pa.: American Canal and Transportation Center, 1973.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory, "Western Division of the

Pennsylvania Canal: Indiana and Westmoreland Counties." 1979/82.

Stewart, J.T. Indiana County, Pennsylvania: Her People, Past and Present.  
Chicago: F.W. Beers and Co., 1913.

Wallner, Peter A. "Politics and Public Works: A Study of the Pennsylvania Canal System, 1825-1857." Ph.D diss, Pennsylvania State University, June 1973.

#### PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was conducted by the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record in cooperation with the America's Industrial Heritage Project under the directorship of Randy Cooley; AIHP is an undertaking of the National Park Service, based in Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania. Recorded under the direction of Robert J. Kapsch, chief of HABS/HAER, the project was completed during summer 1988 at the HABS field office in Johnstown, Pennsylvania. Project leader was Alison K. Hoagland, senior HABS historian; field supervisor was Dorothy Burlingame, University of Vermont; project historian, Kristin Belz, University of Virginia. Large-format photography is by David Ames. Editing of the final report was done by Sara Amy Leach, HABS historian.

This report was completed as part of a larger project documenting two canal towns--Saltsburg, on the Western Division of the Pennsylvania Mainline Canal, and Alexandria, on the Juniata Division--flanking the Allegheny Divide. Twenty-one reports on other buildings in Saltsburg, an overview history of Saltsburg (HABS No. PA-5438), and of canal town development in Pennsylvania (HABS No. PA-5666) are part of the HABS/HAER collection. Twenty-two reports on buildings in Alexandria (Huntingdon County) and an overview history of Alexandria (HABS No. PA-5407) are also available. Results of the project were published as Two Historic Pennsylvania Canal Towns: Alexandria and Saltsburg, Sara Amy Leach, editor (Washington, DC: Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record, National Park Service, March 1989).